

John Lawless
Assistant Professor of Philosophy

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Past Employment

Davidson College: Visiting Assistant Professor in the Writing Program, 2017-2019
University of Pittsburgh: Visiting Lecturer in the Philosophy Department, 2016-2017

Education

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Ph.D. in Philosophy (August 2016)

Thesis: "A Right to Recognition"

Committee: Gerald Postema (chair), Geoffrey Sayre-McCord, Thomas E. Hill, Jr.,
Bernard R. Boxill, Russ Shafer-Landau

M.A. in Philosophy, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (2012)

Thesis: "Legal Processes and the Service Conception of Authority"

Committee: Gerald Postema (chair), Geoffrey Sayre-McCord, and Thomas E. Hill, Jr.

Georgetown University

B.A. in Philosophy and Government (2009)

Area of Specialization

Ethics, Social and Political Philosophy

Areas of Competence

Feminism, Philosophy of Law, Philosophy of Race

Honors, Awards, and Fellowships

Student Government Association Outstanding Faculty Allyship Award (Spring 2021)

Faculty-Student Affairs Partner Award, Utica College (Spring 2020)

UNC Dissertation Completion Fellowship (Fall 2015 & Spring 2016)

Bertha Colton Williams Fellowship (Fall 2014 & Spring 2015)

Horace Williams Fellowship (Fall 2010 & Spring 2011)

Stephen F. McNamee Award (Spring 2009)

Publications

Peer-Reviewed Articles

- "[Against the Managerial State: Preventive Policing as Non-Legal Governance](#)" (*Law and Philosophy*, March 2020)
- "[Gruesome Freedom: The Limits of Non-Constraint](#)" (*Philosophers' Imprint*, February 2018)
- "[Agency in Social Context](#)" (*Res Philosophica*, November 2017)

Peer-Reviewed Chapters

- [“Violence and the Boundaries of the Community: A Relational Approach to Autonomy”](#) in *Pacifism, Feminism, and Politics*, ed. Jen Kling (March 2019)

Public Writing

- [“What Is Policing For?”](#) in *Blog of the APA* (July 2020)

Selected Recent Presentations

- “Organizing Resistance: Republican Ideals for Non-Ideal Politics”
 - at the 38th International Social Philosophy Conference (July 2021)
 - at the Great Lakes Philosophy Conference (April 2021)
- “More than a Capacity: Agency, Oppression, and Paternalism”
 - at Human Rights and Human Dignity: Rethinking the Connection (July 2021)
 - at the Workshop on Political Philosophy in Bioethics, hosted by Carnegie Mellon’s Centre for Ethics and Policy (February 2021).
- “White Shame, Non-White Citizenship” at the XI Braga Meetings On Ethics and Political Philosophy (June 2021)
- “Policing the Border: Racial Nativism as an Existential Threat to Law” at the Climate Crisis, Displacement, and Migration Workshop, hosted by Georgetown University’s Philosophy Department (April 2021)
- “Democracy Beyond Law: Freedom and the Production of Informal Norms” at the PPE Society (March 2020) **Canceled due to COVID-19*
- “Preventive Policing as a Public Expression of Bias” at the PPE Society (March 2019)
- “The Managerial State” at the American Philosophical Association – Central (February 2019)

Teaching Experience

Philosophy of Law, Utica College (Fall 2020, Fall 2019)

Ethics, Utica College (Fall 2020, Spring 2020, Fall 2019)

- University of Pittsburgh (Spring 2017)

African American Political Philosophy, Utica College (Spring 2020)

- Davidson College (Spring 2018)
- UNC-Chapel Hill (Summer 2016)

Business Ethics, Davidson College (Spring 2019)

Medical Ethics, Davidson College (Fall 2018, Fall 2017)

- University of Pittsburgh (Fall 2016)

Writing in the Humanities, Davidson College (Spring 2019, Fall 2018, Spring 2018, Fall 2017)

Political Philosophy, University of Pittsburgh (Spring 2017)

Great Works, UNC-Chapel Hill (Summer 2015)

Ethics of Peace, War, and Defense, UNC-Chapel Hill (Summer 2014)

Ethics and Economics, UNC-Chapel Hill (Spring 2014)

Philosophical Issues of Gender in Society, UNC-Chapel Hill (Fall 2013)

Morality and Law, UNC-Chapel Hill (Summer 2013)

Bioethics ([online course](#)), UNC-Chapel Hill (Spring 2013)
Philosophy of Religion, UNC-Chapel Hill (Summer 2012, Fall 2012)

Professional Activities & Services

Academic Assessment Committee, Utica College (Fall 2020)
Joint Conference Committee, Utica College (Fall 2020)
SafeZone Initiative Curriculum Committee, Utica College (Spring 2020)
Co-Organizer, Visitors' Conference in Philosophy at the University of Pittsburgh (2017) Outreach Program, UNC Department of Philosophy (2010-2016)
Hiring Committee, Graduate Student Representative (2014-15)
Graduate Student Teaching Coordinator, UNC Department of Philosophy (2013-2014)
UNC Philosophy, Politics, and Economics Undergraduate Reading Group Coordinator (2012-2014) Philosophy, Politics, and Economics Club Advisor, UNC (2011-2013)
Graduate Student Pre-Law Adviser, UNC Department of Philosophy (2011-2013)
Speakers Committee, UNC Department of Philosophy (2010-2012)